mum age limit for the Civil Services Examination to 28 years, from 26 years, the level to which it was reduced in 1983;

(b) whether there has also been a demand for coaching centre for Civil Services Examination candidates in backward areas; and

(c) if so, what is Government's response to these demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) The Government has been receiving representations regarding retention of upper age limit for the Civil Services Examinations at 28 years. The Government's objective is to recruit, under strict competitive conditions, young men and women fresh from graduation and to train and mould them to suit the behavioural and skills requirements of the Civil Services. This objective had been eroded by the upper age limit of 28 years introduced in 1979. It was after very careful consideration and thorough examination of all aspects of the matter that Government took a decision in 1983 to reduce the upper age limit for appearing in the Civil Services Examination from 28 to 26 years effective from 1985 examination. The Government has always been anxious to give effect to this decision. However, on representations from students who could not avail of more than one chance within the reduced upper age limit after the decision regarding the reduction was declared in 1983, it was decided in 1985 to postpone the implementation of the decision to Civil Services Examination, 1985. Based on representations to defer the implementation of the decision in order to make available three chances to candidates, it was decided in January, 1986 to implement the decision regarding the age reduction with effect from the Civil Services Examination, 1987. While announcing this decision, Government has reaffirmed its resolve to implement the upper age limit of 26 years from the Civil Services Examination commencing in 1987.

As regards the request for setting up coaching centres in backward areas, the Government has agreed to it in principle. Since the matter requires considerable preparatory work, which has been initiated, it would not be possible to give any details.

Legislation to regulate lotteries

1882. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite a specific entry in the Union list of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India about Central and State Governments lotteries no appropriate law to regulate the same has so far been enacted;

(b) whether such a legislation is proposed to be brought before Parliament specially in view of the complaints of bungling and generation of black money through lotteries; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the nagative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) No Central Law has so far been enacted.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal to bring in Central Legislation at present. Comprehensive guidelines with a view to curbing of malpractices and for regulating the conduct and operations of lotteries had been issued to the States and U.Ts. in June, 1984. These, *inter-alia*, provide for ceiling on prizes, prices of tickets and certain checks regarding printing of tickets and holding of draws.

Setting up of special flying squads

1883 SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether special flying squads to speedily respond to calls by women in

distress and by women organisations, are proposed to be set up in Delhi; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme and the steps so far taken for implementing it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) A special Cell for Crimes against women has been set up in Delhi Police. Recently, the Department of Women's Welfare of the Ministry of Human Resources Development has also recognised four national level voluntary organisations whose task to assist women in distress.

(b) The Cell for Crimes against women deals with specified crimes and also conducts enquiries into cases under the Criminal Procedure Code where cruelty/atrocities against women are reported. Representatives of the four national level voluntary organisations will carry identify cards issued by the Delhi Police. On the basis of wide public contact and the special attention devoted exclusively to the cause of women, these organisations will, when necessary, make complaints to the concerned police stations and also directly to the Courts who will take cognizance of these reports for investigation.

Research in high altitude medicine and agriculture

1884. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL:
DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of research work undertaken by the Defence Research and Development Organisation regarding high altitude medicine and high altitude agriculture during the last one year; and

(b) what steps are being taken to produce such medicines and to popularize high altitude agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) Few drug/chemical agents have been experimented on animals under simulated conditions to improve hypoxia tolerance and increase work efficiency at high altitude.

In Agriculture discipline, Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed high yielding and cold resistant varities of vegetables, cereals and have standardised the technique of growing Mushroom, rearing of Milch cattle, Poultry etc. in high altitude conditions.

(b) After successful trials on animals and human beings, the drugs will be recommended for adoption.

The knowledge developed by DRDO in the agriculture discipline is disseminated to the locals through demonstrations in the 'farmers' fields' organising 'Kisan Melas' and talk through AIR.

Pensions to freedom fighters released earlier because of Gandhi-Irwin Pact

1885. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that those freedom fighters who were given six months rigorous imprisonment in 1931 but were released earlier on account of Gandhi-Irwin Pact could not complete their full term of imprisonment are considered by the Central Government for giving freedom fighter pension;

(b) if so, the number of such persons given pension;

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government are aware that the State Governments give pension to such persons; and

(e) if so, whether Central Government propose to consider such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) to (e) Under the Scheme, such freedom fighters who were sentenced to 6 months or more of imprisonment but were prematurely released due to Gandhi-Irwin